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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICANT: BOATMAN, Peter James

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/GB99/04170

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: December 10, 1999

FOR: IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO PIPES

**BOX PCT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

After the assignment of a serial number and prior to the initial examination of the above-identified application, please enter the attached abstract and make the following amendments:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line on page 1:

--This application is a national stage application, according to Chapter II of the Patent

a<sup>1</sup> Cooperation Treaty. This application claims the priority date of December 12, 1998 for United Kingdom Patent Application No. 9827308.9. --

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Sub. C1 > 3. (Amended) A pipe according to claim 1 where the outer layers are in the form of tubes. --

Sub. C1 > 6. (Amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein the core layer is formed of a plastic concrete and is introduced in a flowable state between the preformed material layers to be moulded therein.